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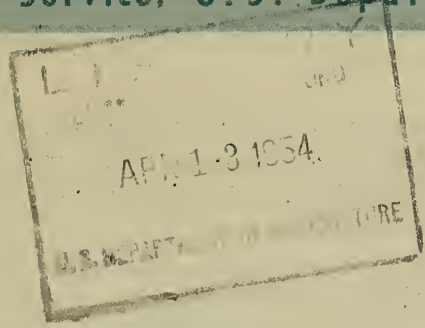


IDEAS

about 4-H Clubs and YMW



Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture



Washington 25, D. C.
October 6, 1953

[no. 2]

For your information
and appropriate action

Dear Coworker:

WASHINGTON STAFF UNITED BEHIND 4 H

Just completed is a first-round series of interdivision staff conferences here on the subject of how best to serve the needs of the States through 4-H.

We met with staffs of all other divisions. It was a thrilling experience. Desire for cooperative activity is high. You will hear and see the results in day to-day contacts of specialists and field workers from this office.

Have you tried meetings of this type? We recommend the idea as an excellent "professional tonic." You will be happier on Thanksgiving Day. It's amazing how many important little problems are thus solved; how many opportunities are seen and endeavors thus started on the way toward greater service to youth.

AIDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT DAY, NOVEMBER 14

Secretary Benson has issued a message of congratulation to members of the 4-H Clubs regarding National Achievement Day, November 14, 1953. Copies of this fine message are enclosed.

A number of local and network radio programs are expected. Among these will be the American Farmer program.

The fact sheet, prepared for press and radio, should be a useful aid. We appreciate the usual fine cooperation of the Division of Extension Information in preparing this sheet and in arranging for radio and press coverage.

We shall look forward to knowing the details and results of Achievement Day observance in your State. If you work out unusually successful ideas, won't you please let us help share them with the rest of the States and Territories.

As a Division staff, we sincerely extend our congratulations to all of you in anticipation of Achievement Day. We appreciate your cooperative attitude and your hard work on Extension youth programs.

WELCOME HOME TO WARREN

Warren Schmidt has returned to his desk in Washington. We look forward, as we know you do, to a report of his experiences with IFYE in Europe and his observations of youth programs abroad. We'll give him time to organize his materials and analyze his experiences--then we'll try to send a detailed summary.

POULTRY FACT-FINDING CONFERENCE - Kansas City, February 12 - 15

The Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work has approved the Poultry Fact-Finding Conference as an invitational event. It may include other youth groups. May we suggest the possibility of choosing delegates at the time you select winners in the national awards programs.

If you want to recommend any of your delegates to appear on the clinic program their records should be submitted by December 15 to Mr. Frank Wollney, IAPI, 221 North La Salle Street, Chicago 1, Ill. Details have been supplied to all Extension poultry specialists.

COOPERATIVE BUSINESS TRAINING FOR FARM YOUTH

This is the title of a new bulletin, FCA E-37, recently published by the Farm Credit Administration. It was also the subject under discussion at a recent meeting involving Ken Stern and Howard McClarren, of the American Institute of Cooperation, representatives of FCA, of Vocational Agriculture, and our staff. Among other items of interest, we noted that 30 States had youth representation at the American Institute of Cooperation meeting in Missouri, 9 States have qualified for plaques, and 12 States held 22 workshops in the field of farm business education during the past year.

Three proposals were developed relative to future action:

1. That the basic objectives of the Youth Education Program in Cooperation be given careful study and analysis.
2. That the Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work be asked to review this program and make appropriate recommendations (now scheduled for its November meeting).
3. That contact be made with State 4-H Club staff members to obtain your reaction, ideas, and suggestions regarding 4-H Club and YMW work in this area, as the basis for future program and development.

Will you please share your ideas with us, using, if you like, the sheet enclosed for this purpose.

GUIDES FOR CREDIT WORK WITH YOUTH

Two fine publications on credit are included in the enclosures. These are FCA E-38, Rural Youth Starts With Credit, and E-39, Leader's Guide for Credit Work With 4-H Clubs and YMW Groups. Both are revisions of earlier publications under the same titles. Additional copies are available, without charge, for the use of county extension agents. Order from the Division of Extension Information, Extension Service, Washington 25, D. C.

James L. Robinson, author of the bulletins, is now a full-time Extension Service worker on the staff here. You can look forward to discussions with him when he comes to your State.

YOUR HELP ON 4-H CLUB AND YMW STORIES

We have frequent requests for 4-H Club and YMW stories, yet little opportunity to gather this type of information. May we suggest a few current topics and ask that you channel success-type stories to us. For the next 6 months, may we invite you to send us stories about:

- Community service projects.
- Activities emphasizing the theme.
- Councils--community, county, and State.
- Spiritual emphasis in 4-H.

Did you hear the National Farm and Home Hour Program over nearly 200 NBC stations Saturday, October 10? An 8-minute YMW feature was beamed out of Clarksburg, W. Va., as the result of just such a tip.

If you like this plan, and it works, we will suggest another set of topics for a later period.

NATIONAL JUNIOR VEGETABLE GROWERS OF AMERICA

We think you will be interested in a recent conference regarding cooperative relationships between the 4-H Clubs and the National Junior Vegetable Growers of America. Dr. R. J. Haskell, specialist in plant pathology and horticulture, and Raymond Scott, fruit and vegetable marketing specialist, of this office, discussed with our staff the whole matter of 4-H Club and YMW activities in the field of fruit and vegetable production and marketing. The Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work is also studying this matter at its November meeting.

In the meantime, as background for our thinking and future planning, we should like to know:

To what extent has the NJVGA program been used in connection with 4-H Club and YMW work in your State?

As a result of your experience, what suggestions can you offer for future action? Any special problems or opportunities?

Your advice will be much appreciated. A similar survey is being sent to extension horticulturists and extension horticultural marketing specialists by R. J. Haskell. For your convenience, a sheet for your reply is enclosed.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF CONSERVATION

This was the topic of discussion at a recent conference called by the Izaak Walton League of America to consider ways in which additional conservation activities could be carried on through existing youth organizations. The Campfire Girls, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, FFA, and 4-H Clubs were represented. (George Foster represented 4-H.)

Plans were outlined looking toward representation of young people, lay leaders, professional youth workers, and conservationists at a conference to be held in connection with the annual meeting of the league in Chicago, March 11-13, 1954. Emphasis is to be placed on sharing ideas and considering ways of doing more conservation work -woods, waters, wildlife, soil. We'll keep you informed as plans develop.

INTERESTING HIGHLIGHTS

We join the National 4-H Club Foundation in welcoming Harold Sponberg, who came to the foundation staff on October 1. Harold reports from Michigan State College, where he has been assistant director of the placement bureau.

Our congratulations to James D. Moore and the Canadian 4-H Club Council on achieving a 9-percent increase in enrollment! This means a total of 65,215 members.

Lucile Heiser, on leave from the Illinois 4-H staff, has the honor of being chosen for the Ellen H. Richards Fellowship. Lucile will continue studies toward a doctorate with a thesis problem relating to the study of the clothing project in the 4-H Club program.

Karen Fladoes spent a day with Dr. Evelyn Blanchard, Kenneth Anderson, and members of our Division staff considering eventual revision of the bulletin How To Manage Your Time for an Easier Meal. Sufficient copies are on hand for 1954. Your suggestions will be welcomed.

John L. Greer, of Freedoms Foundation, conferred with us last week. We suggested he mail some pertinent information to each State leader.

Robert H. Reed, of Country Gentleman in referring to the September cover picture relates an interesting followup. The 4-H Club boy who posed asleep for the artist actually won championship of the junior classes and the grand championship of the show. Let's not be critical or oversensitive about this cover. No unfavorable comparison was intended. The Country Gentleman is strong behind 4-H and has given wonderful support.

SOME IMPORTANT DATES - November and December:

National 4-H Club Achievement Day - November 14

Judging of National Awards Programs - November 15 - 17, Chicago.

George Foster will be chairman.

National Conference on Driver Education - November 15 - 18, Michigan.

Two 4-H members and a Michigan staff person will represent 4-H.

National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest - November 27, International

Livestock Exposition. Nevels Pearson, Michigan, chairman.

Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work - November 27 - 28, Chicago.

National Meeting of County 4-H Club Agents Association - Nov. 29-Dec. 3, Chicago.

National 4-H Club Congress - November 29 - December 3, Chicago.

Sincerely yours,

E. W. Aiton

E. W. Aiton, Leader

Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs

C. C. Lang *George Foster*

C. C. Lang
Associate Leader

George Foster
Associate Leader

W. E. Schmidt *Fern Shipley*

W. E. Schmidt
Associate Leader

Fern Shipley
Associate Leader

Enclosures.

FOR STATE 4-H LEADERS' USE IN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS IN "IDEAS"

1. Item regarding Cooperative Business Training for Farm Youth:

What suggestions and ideas do you have regarding future 4-H Club and YMW work in this area?

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Return to George Foster, Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

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2. To what extent has the NJVGA program been used in connection with 4-H Club and YMW work in your State? As the result of your experience, what suggestions can you offer for future action?